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reason than any other, doubtless, this country has been unable to keep its place at the front in the general movement of the nations to give full effect to the beneficent work of the Hague Conference. After the prominent and very creditable part taken by our representatives at that Conference and the readiness shown by us to submit a disagreement with Mexico to the arbitration of the Hague Tribunal, it might have been anticipated that no country on earth would step ahead of us in the work of securing to that tribunal continued vigor and usefulness. But the fact has been otherwise. Treaties between Great Britain and other European nations, providing for the submission of their disagreements to arbitration at The Hague, are now more than a year old, yet our country has concluded no such treaty. Our State Department has not been idle; eight admirable treaties of similar description have been for some months before the Senate; yet the labor of their preparation has come to nothing.

The point at issue between the Executive and the Senate is understood to be a single word. The treaties as originally drawn provided that the questions to be passed upon by the arbitrators should be settled by "agreement," but an overwhelming majority of Senators insist that the tribunal's work must be set for it by "treaty." The difference in the two words is that the latter does, while the former does not, require the affirmative action of two-thirds of the Senate to make an arbitration possible.

The practical effect of the change of the word is to convert the treaties before the Senate into waste paper; for what else is the treaty under which nothing can be done until another treaty is drawn up to set it in operation? John Doe, let us say, offers to deed me a tract of land, reserving the conditions that I am not to plant it, or pasture it, or build on it, without securing the right from him by a new contract — what is his first deed worth? Obviously, if there must be a later treaty, there need be no preliminary one.

The right of the Senate to insist on amendments to treaties on which it has to pass is not contested. That the Senate, in amending, will always see that its own powers and privileges are amply recognized may be taken for granted. Whether the desired recognition of senatorial powers and privileges was something important enough to justify a crippling of eight arbitration treaties, a halt when the country looked for a forward march, was a matter for that body to decide. Nevertheless, in the opinion of the people generally, the matter has been decided unwisely.

That the decision, moreover, is said to have been influenced by the interest of certain of our States in keeping the question whether the non-payment of their old obligations is or is not repudiation altogether out of foreign hands, is a circumstance not calculated to give us greater confidence in it. But whether this suggestion be true or untrue, there can be no doubt that the influences that led the Senate to amend the word "agreement" into the word "treaty" were influences antagonistic to the principle of international arbitration. In taking this step, that powerful body has gone a long way toward the camp of the opposition — dragging the unwilling country in its grasp. It has taken a long step backward.

Whether negotiations leading to international arbitration shall be made through the executive or legislative

branch of our government is not in itself a matter with which the cause of arbitration is deeply concerned. The cause is concerned, however, with the efficiency of the agency to which it is intrusted, and on which all application of it depends. It is a grave mistake to depend for good work on an unwieldy tool. If what we desired were an arbitration that would not arbitrate, we could not find a more suitable means for attaining it than by committing it to the deliberative branch of our national government, a council which is more than half the time scattered throughout this huge country, and whose treatment of proposed treaties, when it happens to be in session, is illustrated by the fate of the Olney-Pauncefote arbitration treaty and the McKinley-Kasson reciprocity arrangements. By all who remember how tedious was the work of securing even the reciprocity treaty with Cuba, where the case was perfectly clear, and the need of prompt action all but universally recognized, the introduction of the Senate in the first stages of a diplomatic agreement would naturally be rejected as altogether too clumsy a method.

It is possible to think that this deliberative assemblage might allow itself to be represented by a permanent standing committee when not in session, but the thought is not encouraging. The French convention of 1792 had its "committee of public safety," which was by no means an unqualified success; and although the British government originates as a committee of the House of Commons, nothing could be more certain than that our Senate would never permit one of its committees to hold toward it the relations that a British administration holds to its creators. While legislative in origin, the British government is executive in essential character, and can therefore form no precedent in this case. Yet, if our Senate really contemplated making instead of obstructing agreements with foreign countries in the interests of peace, some such step as this, the formation of a strong permanent committee to represent it during its sessions and during its recesses would have to be taken. There is no talk of doing such a thing, of course, and this is the most conclusive proof that the function of those ninety statesmen is essentially obstructive, not constructive.

The question whether Senate or Chief Executive is better qualified, personally or by the relation in which they relatively stand to the people, to conduct the foreign relations of the country, is one that need not be considered. The work of fixing the preliminaries of an international arbitration settlement calls at the same time for dexterity, delicacy and promptness, and is work which a legislative assemblage is unfitted by its very constitution to undertake. The request would seem at least reasonable, that with work which it is incapable of doing it should not unnecessarily interfere.

Some Suitable Inscriptions for the Gateways of Forts and Arsenals, and for Battleflags.

SELECTED BY MARY S. ROBINSON.

He maketh wars to cease unto the ends of the earth.
— *Psalms xvi. 9.*

He hath scattered the peoples who delight in war.
— *Psalms lxxviii. 30.*

In his days shall there be abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth. — *Psalms lxxii. 7.*

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. — *Isaiah ii. 4.*

The work of righteousness shall be peace: and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever. *Isaiah xxxii. 17.*

Violence shall no more be committed in the land, nor desolation nor destruction within thy borders. — *Isaiah lx. 18.*

The voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto Me from the ground. — *Genesis iv. 10.*

He shall speak peace unto the nations; and His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth. — *Zechariah ix. 10.*

On earth peace, good-will toward men. — *Luke ii. 14.*

Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. — *Matthew xxii. 39.*

The Son of Man came not to destroy, but to save men's lives. — *Luke ix. 56.*

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. — *John xv. 12.*

He who loveth his neighbor hath fulfilled the law. — *Romans xiii. 8.*

The fruit of the spirit is peace. — *Galatians v. 22.*

Let the peace of God rule in your hearts. — *Colossians iii. 15.*

Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. — *I. John iii. 15.*

He who loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen. This commandment have we from Him: that he who loveth God love his brother also. — *I. John iv. 20, 21.*

"War is the sum of all villainies, the combination of all furies."

The battle hurtles on the plains;
Earth feels new scythes upon her;
We reap our brothers for the wains,
And call the harvest — "honor."

E. B. Browning.

More solvable is this knot
Like almost all the rest, if men were wise,
By gentleness than by war.

— *Tennyson.*

The stormy clangor
Of wild war music o'er the earth shall cease;
Love shall tread out the baleful fire of anger,
And in its ashes plant the tree of peace!

— *Whittier.*

And down the future runs a flood
Of prophesying light,
It shows an earth unstained with blood,
Blossom and fruit where now we see the bud
Of brotherhood and right.

— *J. R. Lowell.*

It comes, or soon or late,
Despite our butcher hordes;
The hour when right shall shatter might,
Ideas shall conquer swords.

— *E. Burritt.*

Books and Pamphlets Received.

JOHN BROWN THE HERO. Personal Reminiscences. By J. W. Winkley, M.D. With an introduction by Frank B. Sanborn. Boston: James H. West Company. 12mo. Cloth, 126 pages.

OUR EDUCATORS — FOR WAR OR PEACE — WHICH? Address delivered at the Peace Convention, Mystic, Conn., 1895. By Ellen Goodell Smith, M.D.

PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC CONFERENCE, TO ADOPT A UNIVERSAL ALPHABET. Containing endorsements of many eminent scholars. Boston University, College of Liberal Arts, 1905.

VERS LA LANGUE INTERNATIONALE. By Leon Bollack. Paris: La Revue, 12 Avenue de l'Opera.

CONSTITUTIONAL METHODS OF MAKING AND RATIFYING TREATIES IN CERTAIN FOREIGN COUNTRIES. Senate Document 158, Fifty-eighth Congress, Third Session.

THE NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL. Extracts from the speech of Hon. James L. Slayden of Texas in the House of Representatives, February 15, 1905.

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES AND PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS. By George T. Angell. Boston: The American Humane Education Society, 19 Milk Street. Price, 6 cents; by mail, 10 cents.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE. Brief as to proposed new legislation. Prepared by Samuel Spencer and David Willcox. New York: C. G. Burgoyne, Walker and Centre Streets.

ROMAN CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT BIBLES COMPARED. The Helen M. Gould Prize Essays. New York: Bible Teachers' Training School, 541 Lexington Ave. Price, paper cover, 50 cents.

LISTE DES ORGANES DU MOUVEMENT PACIFISTE. Corrected to March 1, 1905. Berne, Switzerland: Bureau International de la Paix.

REPORT OF THE SECOND NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE FRENCH PEACE SOCIETIES, held at Nîmes, April 7-10, 1904. Nîmes, France: Bureau de l'Association de la Paix par le Droit. In French.

THE SCIENTIFIC INDICTMENT OF WAR. Sermon by James H. Ecob, D.D. Philadelphia: The Unitarian Bookroom, 102 South 12th Street.

AN INAUGURAL ODE. By Alexander Blair Thaw. Nelson, N. H.: The Monadnock Press.

Form of Bequest.

I hereby give and bequeath to the American Peace Society, Boston, a corporation established under the laws of the State of Massachusetts, the sum of ——— dollars, to be employed by the Directors of said Society for the promotion of the cause of peace.

Auxiliaries of the American Peace Society.

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